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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attorney Docket No. 2006_1640A

Akira MIZUNO et al. : Confirmation No. 9383

Serial No. 10/594,387 : Group Art Unit 1797

Filed October 17, 2006 : Examiner Elizabeth L. McKane

METHOD OF STERILIZATION AND : Mail Stop: AF

APPARATUS THEREFORE

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 30, 2009, please amend the above-referenced U.S. patent application as follows: